GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:194
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the labourers earn their livelihood through agriculture;

(b) if so, the percentage of such labourers out of the total labourers in the nineties and at present;

(c) whether these labourers do not get employment throughout the year;

(d) if so, the average number of days in a year they get employment and the details of the proposed schemes so that they could get employment throughout the year; and

(e) the estimated annual income of such a labourer against average national income?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR(SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 194 FOR REPL
2.12.2002 BY SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN AND DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA REGARDING AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

(a) to (e): Estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force are obtrained from quinquennial National Sample Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. As per the surveys carried out by them during 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the percentage of workers engaged in agriculture was around 65% and 60% respectively. Out of the total of 397 million workers in the country in the year 1999-2000 the number of workers who worked less than 183 days in a year was around 31 million. The Government has launched various employment oriented schemes like Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana to provide wage employment whenever there is acute shortage of employment such as lean agriculture seasons or drought. Some of the other schemes include Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana etc. The annual average wage per worker engaged as casual labour was Rs. 7704 in rural areas and 11748 in urban areas during the year 1999-2000.